


### REMARKS

The Applicant sincerely appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Actions of March 8, 2005, and August 18, 2005, and the Advisory Action of November 10, 2005. In particular, the Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 1, 3-13, and 15-24 are allowed and that Claims 42-49 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response, the Applicant has rewritten Claims 42, 43, 46, and 47 in independent form, thereby placing Claims 42-49 in a condition indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. In addition, Claim 41 has been canceled. Entry of these amendments after final is respectfully requested because the only amendments have been to rewrite dependent claims in independent form and to cancel a claim so that no new issues have been raised. Moreover, these claim amendments have been made without prejudice to the Applicant's right to pursue the subject matter of Claim 41 in a continuing application. Entry of this amendment and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested before February 18, 2006.

Accordingly, the Applicant submits that all pending claims in the present application are in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone should any additional issues need to be addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Scott C. Hatfield  
Registration No. 38,176

**Customer Number 20792**  
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.  
P.O. Box 37428  
Raleigh, NC 27627  
919-854-1400  
919-854-1401 (Fax)

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on November 18, 2005.

Joyce Paoli 